

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6015

BILL NUMBER: SB 307

NOTE PREPARED: Sep 7, 2012

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Food Stamp Assistance after Drug Conviction.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Broden

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
X FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill allows certain individuals who were convicted of a drug offense but have not been convicted of another drug offense in the previous five years before applying for food stamps to receive food stamps. The bill permits individuals who have a conviction in the last five years but who are receiving specified treatment and drug and alcohol testing to receive food stamps.

Effective Date: July 1, 2013.

Explanation of State Expenditures: According to FSSA, opting out of the federal ban on providing food stamps to individuals with felony drug convictions is expected to have no fiscal impact. Currently, FSSA processes the food stamp applications of felony drug offenders, but denies these applicants food stamp assistance. Any additional benefits provided to applicants with felony drug convictions would be financed solely by the federal government.

It should be noted the state may also experience an increase in the number of food stamp applications received and potential administrative costs to process the additional applications. Actual increases in administrative costs are unknown. However, under the SNAP program, the federal government reimburses half of the costs incurred for administration of the program.

Additional Information: The FSSA also reports that applicants for SNAP benefits are not subjected to criminal background checks. Currently, SNAP applications contain a self-declaration section where applicants indicate if they have any felony drug convictions that may make them ineligible for SNAP benefits (under penalty of

perjury for falsified information).

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: FSSA.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Susie Howard, FSSA.

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